

## Interim Study Item List

### 2018 Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Interim Committee

Rep. Stephen G. Handy, Chair    Sen. Daniel Hemmert, Chair



Item	Description
<b>Future of Coal</b>	What is coal's future? What is Utah's position?
<b>Customer Choice: Municipalities &amp; Renewables</b>	Utah cities are requesting Rocky Mountain Power assist them with becoming 100% renewable energy municipalities. What are the roles of the regulated public utility, the Legislature, and the PSC in addressing these requests? What are the additional costs, if any, to households and businesses? How is a model developed and what is the timetable for implementation?
<b>Regionalization</b>	Study regionalization of transmission operations throughout the Western grid, including whether, when, and how Utah utilities might join a full interstate market.
<b>Rural Job Creation &amp; the Energy &amp; Minerals Sector</b>	What is the role of the energy and minerals sector in creating 8,000 new rural jobs by the end of 2020?
<b>Energy Infrastructure Development</b>	What is the state and the Office of Energy Development doing regarding energy infrastructure development and access to markets? What are the opportunities going forward?
<b>Intermountain Power Agency</b>	Status update on plans for building a natural gas power plant in Utah. What is the status of long-term contracts? What are the ramifications for the coal industry? What is the future?
<b>Rural Development of Wind, Solar, &amp; Geothermal Energy</b>	Study how to best encourage the development of wind, solar, and geothermal energy resources in rural areas of the state.  <b>Related Legislation: 2018 H.C.R. 9</b>

Item	Description
<b>Intermittent Energy Resources</b>	Study the expansion of intermittent resources on the grid and potential impacts on energy reliability.
<b>Changing Fuels Market</b>	Study the changing fuels market, including Tier 3 fuels, electric vehicles, and other advancements.
<b>Cyber Center</b>	Currently, it is difficult to share information among government entities when a cybersecurity event takes place. There is a need to establish a central, unified state interface for coordinating cybersecurity monitoring, sharing information, performing cybersecurity threat analysis, and promoting shared and real-time situational awareness between and among executive branch agencies.
<b>High Resolution Aerial Photos for the Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center</b>	A couple of years ago, DTS partnered with several state and local government agencies to purchase and provide a new model for delivering high resolution aerial photos, via Google. Over 300 state agencies, local government agencies and private sector companies use the aerial photography to create and manage map data. We no longer have available funding to update the imagery on a regular basis. The landscape of the state is constantly changing and we need to purchase regular, updated imagery.
<b>Rocky Mountain Power Interstate Cost Allocation</b>	Status update on negotiations with states in Rocky Mountain Power's service area concerning future costs allocation, given the passing of an Oregon law requiring coal to be taken out of rates for Oregon ratepayers beginning in 2030.
<b>Data Security</b>	<p>The State Tax Commission requires employers to provide employees' personal information, including their names, addresses, and social security numbers. Before the information is transmitted to the Tax Commission it must be encrypted. However, when the same information is sent to the Department of Workforce Services it does not require encryption.</p> <p>Study the processes used by the Department of Workforce Services and other state agencies to ensure secure transmission of data and how processes can be improved.</p>

Item	Description
<b>Damage to Underground Utilities Facilities</b>	<p>Study limits to an operator's claim against an excavator for damage to underground utility facilities resulting from an excavator's violation of requirements related to excavation involving underground utility facilities.</p> <p><b>Related legislation: 2018 H.B. 455</b></p>